

A<sup>1</sup> charging circuits, respectively, thereby making the predetermined time period substantially independent of a frequency of the sinusoidal line voltage signal.

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A<sup>2</sup> 18. (Amended) The timer circuit of claim 13, further comprising a half-wave rectification circuit coupled between the line voltage and the charging circuit, wherein the half-wave rectification circuit is operable to half-wave rectify the line voltage input to the charging circuit, and wherein the charging circuit is operable to minimize a ripple associated with a charging voltage of the charging circuit, thereby making the delay time substantially independent of a frequency of the line voltage.

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#### REMARKS

Claim 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 11 and 18 are amended with this preliminary amendment. Support for the amendments may be found in applicants' specification, for example, on pp. 13-14. Favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.